



The U.S. Ambassador's Small Grants Program to
Support Gender Equality in Afghanistan (ASGP)
برنامهء پروژه‌های کوچک سفیر ایالات متحده جهت حمایت از
تساوی امور جندر در افغانستان

FACT SHEET

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THE AMBASSADOR'S SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM TO SUPPORT GENDER EQUALITY IN AFGHANISTAN: ADVANCING THE ROLE OF WOMEN

In July 2009, the Ambassador of the United States in Afghanistan announced a grant program for Afghan organizations that help women secure opportunities and advocate for themselves. The Ambassador's Small Grants Program to Support Gender Equality will work with the Afghan Ministry of Women's Affairs and Afghan Civil Society Organizations.

Flexible, rapid response grants will address Afghan women's needs in education, healthcare, skills training, economic opportunities, counseling on family issues, and public advocacy. The Program is financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development. Creative Associates International was selected through full and open procurement to administer the Program. The Program will carry out activities from regional offices in Kabul, Mazar-e-Sharif and Herat, and includes the following components:

GRANTS: Eligible Afghan organizations will receive funding to help women and girls with education and literacy, health, economic opportunities, gender-based violence, advocacy, access to justice, building coalitions, public awareness and peaceful co-existence.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT: To ensure best use of the grants, applicant organizations will be reinforced with a technical support program. A collaborative institutional and gender audit will assess applicants' organizational capacity to implement programs and promote gender equality within their organizations. The audit will identify where applicants need technical support to be effective in supporting Afghan women and girls. Applicants will benefit from practical help with strategic planning, developing a board of directors, accounting, monitoring and evaluation, information and program management systems, human resource policy and procedures, on-the-job training, mentoring, and essential equipment. The initial audit will also serve to track progress by grantees and the sector as a whole.

GENDER ADVOCACY: The Program will work with the Ministry of Women's Affairs to build cohesion among grantees and other organizations. This mutual support is important to sustaining a viable civil society network. Established Afghan partners will serve as advocates in framing this larger purpose. The Program will sponsor national and regional gatherings of Afghan organizations supporting women. Outreach to rural organizations will be a priority, including sponsoring their involvement in national and regional events.

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Ambassador's Small Grants Program to Support Gender Equality in Afghanistan
Kabul, Afghanistan ■ +93 (0) 793 81 52 68
info@crea-af.com